

T H E 6

Merchant's Complaint

2 A G A I N S T

SPAIN:

K C O N T A I N I N G

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| <p>I. Their Behaviour towards <i>England</i>, in the peaceable Reign of King <i>James I.</i>--- exactly taken from a Dedication address'd to the Parliament, and printed in the Year 1624.</p> <p>II. A Letter from a Gentleman in the <i>West-Indies</i>, to a Merchant in <i>London</i>, concerning <i>Trade</i>, the Pretensions of <i>Spain</i> to <i>Georgia</i>, the Depredations and Cruelties committed by their <i>Guarda Costa's</i> on the <i>English</i> Merchants and Sailors.</p> | <p>III. A Dialogue between <i>Henry VIII.</i>, <i>Edward VI.</i>, Prince <i>Henry</i>, Queen <i>Mary</i>, Queen <i>Elizabeth</i>, and Queen <i>Anne</i>; wherein the inbred Hatred of <i>Spain</i> to <i>England</i> is plainly proved to be Hereditary; and that the only Method to treat with <i>Spain</i>, is by Point of Sword (being the Advice of Lord Chancellor <i>Bacon</i> on his Death-bed to Queen <i>Elizabeth</i>).</p> |
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To which is added,

A LETTER from Queen *Mary* in *Elysium*, to the famous Count *Gondomar*, the *Spanish* Ambassador, in the Reign of King *James I.* who was the principal Cause of the Death of the Great Sir *Walter Raleigh*.

L O N D O N:

Printed for, and Sold by W. LLOYD, next the *King's Arms Tavern* in *Chancery-Lane*, near *Fleetstreet*; and the Pamphlet-Shops of *London* and *Westminster*, 1738.

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P R E F A C E.



*W*HEN any Grievance becomes national, especially in the Mercantile Part of the Kingdom, it must naturally affect every true Englishman, and such is the Subject which we now treat of; Bristol is next to London, a Place of the most Trade in England, they have already made very warm Remonstrances; the Merchants of London have seconded them, and it is now the common Opinion that the Government will interest itself in the Affair; the ill Usage our Fellow Subjects have met with from the Spaniards, must naturally rouse us to Revenge, if not root in us an implacable Hatred to a Nation, that has always deceived us; never behaved friendly to us, even when they profess'd the strictest Alliance; but have always upon the slightest Occasions, took every Opportunity of shewing themselves our Enemies.

England has for some Time held the Balance of Europe, and been the Defence not only of the Protestant Religion, but a Barrier against the encroaching Designs of all the European Powers, by waiting the Result of their Councils, and then throwing her Power

into the Scale; she hath often disconcerted their Measures and calm'd them from Tumults; that seem'd to threaten inevitable War, into Peace and Reason.

In her present Situation, — if the ambitious Views of France, embolden'd by her growing Power, should join to assist Spain, what must England and all the Protestants in Europe expect? especially as the Dutch, our natural Ally, seem to be pointed at, as well as us, and as the Emperor (once our Friend) is engag'd in an expensive and troublesome War with the Turk.

This is not the first Time, by many, that the Spaniards have been at Variance with the English; nay, such has ever been their Behaviour, that we can never expect any Civility from them, but by beating them into it.

Some Time since, I met with an old Tract, (publish'd in the Reign of King James I.) which seems to me to be wrote with so much Judgment, and so well express'd the innate Hatred of Spain to England, that I thought it would not be amiss to set forth the following Extracts from it, as a proper Introduction to the ensuing Letter, which accidentally fell into my Hands, together with the Dialogues; and which I now publish with no other View, than merely for the Good of my Country, which I hope will never be made the Dupe of Spain.

TO THE
 Illustrious and Grave ASSEMBLY
 OF THE
 HIGH COURT of PARLIAMENT.

TO you, who are the representative Body of *England*, and the Epitomy and Compendium of this great Volume of our Estate; To you, who are summoned by our King, and sent up by our Country, to obey the first with your best Fidelities, to serve the second with your chiefest Zeal and Endeavours, and to affect and honour both, with your most religious Prayers and Wishes. To you, from whom God for his Glory, our Sovereign for his Honour and Safety, and our Church and Commonwealth for their flourishing Welfare and Prosperity, do expect much by your transcendant and honourable Employments: To you, I say, and to no other, do I present this Consultation to your Consideration, and dedicate it to your Protection.

And because (in point of Integrity and Duty) I hold myself bound to bring the Truth nearer to your Knowledge, or rather home to your Understanding; may it please you, to be informed, that about some three Years since, at the first setting of the last High Court of Parliament, when our King was most earnest in proposing

Posing the Match of our most noble Prince his Son, with the *Infanta* of *Spain*; when the King of *Spain* colourably pretended (tho' not really intended) to be deeply affected to entertain and embrace the said Motion; when Count *Gondomar* (his Ambassador) made shew to be a zealous Solicitor, and a most active and officious Stickler for compassing and finishing it; when our *Roman Catholics* became passionately, and insultingly confident of the free Toleration of their Religion, and in the Sky-reaching Mountains of their ambitious and superstitious Hopes, were already preparing to erect their Groves and Altars, to set up their Idols and Images, and consequently to introduce their Pope and his Mass in the Temple of our God; when all Prisons were unlocked, and open to all pernicious Priests and Jesuits, and that many others (like Caterpillars and Vipers) came flocking and swarming from divers Parts of *Europe*, to poyson and eat out the Souls of our People, with their idolatrous Doctrine of Antichrist; and to withdraw their Hearts and Consciences from their Allegiance and Fidelity, to their natural Prince and Country; purposely (with more Treachery than Religion) to subject them to a foreign Power and Jurisdiction. When the Emperor had beaten the King of *Bohemia* from *Prague*, and the Duke of *Bavaria* with the Assistance of the Swords, Soldiers, and Treasure of the King of *Spain*, had, in a settled Truce, assaulted and taken many Towns in the *Palatinate*, contrary to their Promises to
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our King, and of his Majesty's to the Prince his Son-in-Law ; and contrary to the publick Peace of *Germany* and *Christendom*. Then, then it was, (that to pull off the Mask of *Spain's* Ambition and Malice, who with the Fire of this Match, fought to set *England* all flaming in a mournful and miserable Combustion, thereby to bury her Glory in the Dust, and her Safety in the Cinders of her Subversion and Ruins) that as *Prometheus* fetched Fire from Heaven, so the Fire of my Zeal to the Good of my Prince and Country, likewise fetched from thence this Royal Consultation for the Discovery of our apparent and imminent Dangers, and in knowing them, to know likewise how to prevent them ; which resolving to make publick, because it solely tends to *England's* publick Glory and Prosperity : I, contrary to my Expectation, (but not to my Fears,) saw my Hopes nipt in their Blossoms, and my Desires stifled in their Births, because the Seas of our King's Affection to *Spain* went so lofty, and the Winds were so tempestuous, that it could not possibly be permitted to pass the Pikes of the Press : When albeit my Zeal and Fidelity again and again infused new Audacity and Courage to my Resolutions, to see it salute the Light, yet it was impossible for me or it, to be made so happy, because I saw *Allured's* honest Letter, *Scot's* loyal *Vox Populi*, *D. Whiting's*, *D. Everard's*, and *Clayton's* zealous Sermons, and others suppressed and silenced, as also *Ward's* faithful Picture, which yet was so

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Innocent, as it only breathed forth his Fidelity to *England* in silent Rethorick, and dumb Eloquence. Whereupon inforced to take a Law from the Iniquity of the Time, (with much Reluctation and more Grief,) I hushed up my said Consultation in Silence, and because I could not serve my Prince and Country in that Book of mine: I therefore then renewed my constant Resolution and Zeal to serve them in my most fervent Prayers, and my most religious and zealous Wishes, the which I have ever since faithfully and constantly performed.

Sitting thus to behold the constant Inconstancy of the World, which presents as many different Accidents to our Knowledge, as Objects to our Eye, and being Jealous, Vigilant, and Attentive, to that which did, or might any Way appertain to my Sovereign and his Princely Posterity, to his Dominions and Subjects; I was enforced to see (O that I had been so happy as not to have seen) the perfidious Progress of *Spain's* new Treacheries, and Usurpation upon many Countries of *Europe*; for first, his Cousin *Leopaldus* hath devoured the Dutchy of *Cleaves* and *Fuliers*, then he and his Forces have taken many other free Towns, and whole Bishopricks in the Countries of *Luxembourg*, and *La Marcke*; as also in the Frontiers of *Switzerland* and *Lorain*: Then he and his Factor the Duke of *Bavaria* (for him) hath finished his absolute Conquest of the *Palatinate* (that dainty, rich and fertile Province of *Germany*) the Dowry
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of our only Princess, the Inheritance of the Prince her Husband, and the Patrimony of their Royal Issue, wherein the Honour of our King, and of his three famous Kingdoms, do most extremely suffer.

I saw him conquer the chiefest Cities, Forts, and Passages of the *Grisons*, and hath brought their Liberties and Lives to the last Gasp and Period; yea, to the merciless Mercy of his not generous but bloody Sword; which being under the Protection of the *French* King, doth likewise cast a wonderful Stain and Blemish on the Lustre of his Honour and Crown, if he speedily take not his Revenge thereof; by leaving these his honest Confederates as free as he found them, and as great *Henry* his Father left them. And after the Triumphs and treacherous Progression of the House of *Austria* in *Germany*. The King of *Spain* hath now made a Body of his and the *Imperial* Forces, and this Summer intends to play his bloody Prize for the total Ruin and Subversion of the *Netherlands*; (who to the Eye of the World, and to human Judgment) must shortly sink, if the two Kings of *Great Britain* and *France* do not make them swim, by speedily sending them brave Succours and Assistance in this their urgent Necessity.

And whereunto tends all this treacherous Ambition, and formidable Usurpation and Greatness of the King of *Spain*, but to cut out a Passage with his Sword, and make his Troops and Regiments fly over the *Alps*, for his credling and obtaining the *Western* Empire?

pire? And whereunto tends it I say, but to make his Territories and Dominions to encirculize *Great Britain* and *France*, yea, to be their Cloyster, and to make and esteem those two famous Monarchies, but only as a fatal Church-yard to bury and inter themselves in.

But Illustrious and generous Sirs, is this all the Malice and Treachery which *Spain* hath offered towards *England*? O no, nothing less; for upon that Journey (which was as dangerous as sudden) of our Prince into *Spain* (than whom the World hath not a braver:) Hath not the King of *Spain* dealt treacherously with him about his Match with the *Infanta* his Sister? yea have they not in his Princely Person, violated the Laws of Hospitality? and the Privilege of Princes (when being under his own Roof) by attempting to tie him to Forms, which were diametrically opposite to his Honour; yea to be so audaciously Impudent, as with much Violence and Virulence to seek to put a Rape upon his Conscience and Religion, in their profered Enforcement of his Conversion to *Popery*; as if their *Infanta* had been more precious to him than his Soul, or that he had been so wretchedly grounded and instructed in Piety, that his Highness would have forsaken his God, purposely to have obeyed and adored the King of *Spain*, who is not, nor cannot be a greater King than he is a Prince?

And to step yet a Degree farther; was it not a hellish Policy, and a diabolical Design
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and Resolution of the Council of *Spain*, to advise our Prince upon his return into *England*, to war upon the Protestants, and to proffer him an Army to suppress and exterminate them? The Protestants, I say, who are those by whom our King reigneth, and without whom his Majesty can never subsist nor reign; nor his Highness successively aspire, or hope to aspire to his Crowns and Kingdoms after him, since they are the Life, the Vigour, the Heart, and the Soul thereof. And will our King, and our Prince, our Parliaments, and our Protestants of *England*, then ever forget this inveterate Rage, and infernal Malice of *Spain* against them? as also their imperious and insulting Carriage towards his Highness, and towards *Great Britain*, as if they had prized it at so low a Rate, and made their boundless Ambition so excessively over-value their own *Spain*? that that were in the *Crisis* of her Weakness and Misery, and this in the prime and vertical Point of her Power and Glory? and when his Highness pressed them for the Restitution of the *Palatinate*, which they had often promised the King his Father, then they temporiz'd so cunningly, and subtiliz'd so treachously with him, that every Day brought forth new Delays and Difficulties, till in the End they had made the Cure worse than the Disease, and having taken firm Footing therein, were enforced to unvail and unmask their Dissimulation, and faintly and coldly to affirm, that they would treat with the Emperor for the Restitution thereof, but

could not promise it: Thus having abused, first our King the Father, and then our Prince the Son, they have likewise betray'd and ruin'd our Princess the Daughter, in their final Conquest, and resolute Detention of the Prince her Husband's *Palatinate*, that Princess I say, whose Royal and sublime Virtues, make her the Honour of her Sex, and *Phanix* Princess of the World. Whereunto adding the absolute Breach of the Match long since prophetically delacerated, and cast in Heaven by the Princely and Royal Authors of this Consultation, and since the same Breach here on Earth likewise so happily confirmed by the King, as also by the Prince: So all these Premises considered hath not *England* Reason to hate *Spain*, in Regard *Spain* hates it? especially because of these two mayne ensuing Points, and important Considerations?

First, for that the King of *Spain* is a greater, and more professed Enemy to our sacred King and his Royal Posterity, than either the Emperor or Duke of *Bavaria*, and is so to be held and esteem'd of us.

Secondly, therefore to denounce War to him, and to make it good as soon as it is denounced, is as honourable as necessary, and as just as honourable for *England*; as upon New-Years-Day last I made these two Points apparent and manifest to the King, in my Discourse intituled *Votivæ Angliæ*, which I sent his Majesty in Behalf and Favour of the Prince *Palatine* his Son-in-Law, for the Restoration of his *Palatinate*.

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Having thus (with as much Disdain as Grief) seen his inveterate Malice towards *Great Britain*, towards our King and his Royal Posterity, and consequently the eminent Danger whereinto our profound Security hath thrown, and precipitated us in particular; and understanding likewise how the said King of *Spain* with *Xerxes*, threatens the Seas and Mountains of *Europe* in general; being as well in Heart as Tongue an *Englishman*, and therefore knowing by Grace, what I owe by Nature to my natural Prince and Country (like *Cressus's* dumb Son) I would not, I could not be silent thereat, but must expose this Consultation of *Vox Cæli* to the Light and Sight of the World: I mean to the Light of your Knowledge, and the Sight of your Consideration, under the secure Target, and safe Shelter and Sanctuary of your auspicious Protection.

To you therefore *Great Britains* greatest Palladines and Champions, to you the invincible Bulwark of our King and his Royal Progeny, and the inexpressible Citadel and *Acrocorinth* of our Estate: To you I say the Conscript Fathers of our supreme Senate; doth it in Duty present itself, and in Humility prostrate itself; which when your first Leisure hath curiously read, and your best Zeal carefully and maturely considered: Then by all that true *English* Blood which streameth in your Heart and Veins, by all the Love which your Country bears you, and by all the Duty and Affection reciprocally you owe to your Country; I both request and conjure you,

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you, to tell our King that it is nothing for his Majesty to have made a brave and generous Declaration of War against *Spain*, except he speedily second it with Execution, without which it will prove a vain *Fantasma*, and an abortive *Embrion*: Tell him, that it were the last Acts of *Augustus*, which embellish'd his Reign, and that old *Pericles* made the greatness of his Generosity and Courage, to revive and flourish on his Tomb, when he caused the *Athenians* to war upon the *Peloponessians*: Tell him that *Philopame-nus* affirmeth, that Peace is the Time to meditate of War. Tell him that to transport War into *Spain*, is to avoid and prevent it in *England*, as *Hannibal* said to King *Antiochus*, that the only Way to make War against the *Romans*, was to begin it in the Heart and Bowels of *Rome*, and so to vanquish *Italy* by *Italy*. Tell him that *Plutarch* affirms, there is no Action so Royal or Magnificent in a King, as to take Arms to assist and revenge his Confederates unjustly oppressed and ruined, much more his own Royal Children, and that if the *Palatinate* be too far, that *Flanders* and *Brabant*, are but the Skirts and Suburbs of *England*. Tell him that *Agessilaus* said, that Words are feminine, and Deeds masculine, and that it is a great Point of Honour, Discretion, and Happiness for a Prince, to give the first Blow to his Enemies. Tell him that *Spainards* hate us, why then should we love them? Tell him that if it go not well with *Holland*, it must needs go ill with *England*;
and

and that if we do not prevent their Ruin, that we cannot secure our own Danger. Tell him that in Matters of War, it is dangerous to make a Stand, shameful to retire, and glorious to advance. Tell him that *Philip* of *Spain* is of *Pyrrhus's* Mind, who said, that having devoured and conquered all *Europe*, he would end his Days in Jollity and Pleasure in *Macedonia*. And therefore that it is Time, yea high Time to strike up our Drums against him, because as well our Safety, as our Honour envites us to it.

And now turning from his Majesty, to you the illustrious and famous Body of this great and famous Court of Parliament, (whereof the King is the Head) to you, I say, who are the Cream and Flower of his Subjects: O hold it no Disparagement that I tell you; that since in all Matters of Order, Policy, and Reformation, that Delays and Protractions prove still dangerous, many Time fatal; that you beware least as your Consultations fly away with the Time; that Occasion and Opportunity fly not away with your Consultations, since Time must be taken by his Forelock, and then as *Julius Caesar* saith, we have Wind and Tide with us.

Think what a Happiness, what a Glory it is for *England* to have Wars with *Spain*, since *Spain* in the Lethargy of our Peace, hath very near undermined our safety, and subverted our Glory; and let us dispel those Charms of Security, wherein *England* hath been too long lull'd and enchanted asleep: And if Fear and Pusilani-

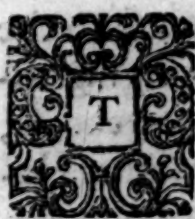
Unanimity yet offer to shut our Eyes against our Safety, yet let our Resolution and Courage open them to the Imminency of our Danger; that our Glory may surmount our Shame, and our Swords cut those Tongues and Pens in Pieces, which henceforth dare either to speak of Peace, or write of Truce with *Spain*.

No, no; to take the Length of *Spain's* Foot aright, we must do it with our Swords, not with our Necks, for the first will assuredly establish our Safety, and the second infallibly ruins it. Wars, Wars, then ye (with chear-Hearts and joyfull Souls) let us prepare ourselves for War: That our *Great Britain* (the Beauty of *Europe*, as *Europe* is the Glory of the World) lie no longer exposed to the apparent Danger, and merciless Mercy of this *Castilian* Rat, of this Crocodile of *Italy*, of this Vulture of *Germany*, and of this Wolf of *Ardena*; but let us all signalize our Fidelities to our Sovereign by our Courage, and immortalize our Zeal to our Country by our Valour and Resolution herein: That we may be all of *Alcibiades's* Opinion, that the Bed of Honour is the best Death, that there is no better Recompence of Death than Glory, nor no richer Glory, than to die for our Prince and Country.

S. R. N. I.



S I R,



THE Concern you express in condoling with me in my present Misfortune, still adds to the many Obligations I have already received, and confirms me in the Sentiments I always entertained of your unbounded Generosity. You desired, in your last, a particular Account of mine and the Ship's Crew being carried Prisoners into this Place, and under what Pretext the *Spaniards* could condemn our Vessel, as we had no contraband Goods on Board; I shall in compliance with this, your Request, give you a Relation in what Manner they behave, and what is the usual Treatment, which the unhappy *Englishmen* meet with from these revengeful and haughty Wretches, not only in the *Gulph*, but in all Parts of the *West Indies*.

But I wou'd first recommend to you the following short remarks I have made of Commerce in general, and of each Nation's Right to it in particular, That as I think *Spain*

hath broke through by her late Behaviour not only the most *solemn Treaties*, but the *Law of Nations* in General, of which every Potentate on Earth, is in his Regal and Civil Capacity a Guarentee, and bound in Justice to maintain for the Good of universal Society, and the Safeguard and Benefit of his own Subjects, not only in a Regard as they stand to the social Tie of Nation and Nation, but as a distinct Community with a particular View to their own Interest.

Commerce, by extending its Progress to the remotest Parts of the Earth, by bringing together, in a friendly and mutual Intercourse, People of the most different Complexions, Habits and Customs, and by rendering them beneficial to each other, naturally rouses up the hidden Springs of Nature, with which the *Divine Being* first endued the Heart of Man, and which inspire him with a generous Friendship to all his Fellow-Creatures: Therefore as *Commerce* gives Rise to this noble Ardour of the Soul, it must be the only Cement of mortal Happiness, and the Source of every Virtue, in which the Union and Harmony of Mankind subsist.

That several great Improvements have been made in this Art or Science since its first Institution, is what every Body knows, and that whoever improves in any valuable Knowledge, or strives to enlarge any Science, with a View to the general Good, has undoubtedly a right to reap the Benefit thereof, as he has to demand a Property in his own Estate, or Effects;

fects, is what, I believe, no one will disallow: this, therefore being not only the private Opinion, but the general Voice of the World, and as several States or Nations have from Time to Time excelled in, and claim'd a Title to various Arts and Sciences, it hath ever been held proper to establish them in a quiet Possession of the same, and as several Countries, more than others, have cultivated the Branch of which I am now speaking; they have by the general Consent of their Neighbours been allow'd more Privileges and Emoluments from the same than others.

As there are various Designs and Inventions to propagate this Science, so each that has excelled in any of these hath likewise an indisputable Right thereto, and as the Necessity and Nature of the Case, will oblige the Subjects of different States to pass and repass through each others Dominions, it hath ever been esteem'd legal for them peaceably so to do, (taking this by the way) that though each hath parcell'd and canton'd out their Districts of the Land, yet all are *Free Denizens* of the High Seas or main Ocean.

And further, the *Art of Navigation* having been found the most useful, hath met with the most Immunities, and those Persons who have applied themselves most diligently thereto, have had Honours and Punctilio's of Deference paid them by the Rest, as an Acknowledgment of their superior Force, Art, and Industry: Of this the *British* Flag was *once* an incontestable Proof that she was Mis-

treſs of the Ocean. By this her Subjects were confirm'd in their Privileges and Free Traffick, by the moſt ſolemn Agreements that could be made, having Liberty to carry their own Merchandiſe to any Port, at the ſame time promiſing not to invade the Property of the contending Nations.

If therefore after theſe ſolemn Agreements and Treaties, ratified and confirmed, and after they have been ſome Time in actual Poſſeſſion of the Advantages which have accrued from thence; if therefore, I ſay, maugre all the ſtricteſt Ties, and in Oppoſition to all Laws, divine and human, a Monarch will direct his Officers and Subjects, under the ſpecious Pretence of *guarding his own Coaſts*, to commit whatever Outrages they think proper upon a Nation with whom they pretend to be in Peace, and even on the High Seas; when on any Pretext, they ſhall plunder their Ships, and even take their Neceſſaries as contraband Goods, even carry their Ships into their own Ports, condemn them to their own Uſe, and, unheard, commit the Men to Priſon loaded with Irons; in what View muſt the reſt of Mankind look upon the Monarch, who if he does not command, at leaſt ſcreens or permits his Subjects to commit ſuch Depredations? If their Pretences are juſt, and they have received any real Injury, why do they not make it publickly appear, and demand Reparation? For without War declared, Acts of Hoſtility are Acts of Piracy, and they ought to be deem'd ſo in the ſtrongeſt Light.

To pick a Man's Pocket while you shake him by the Hand, would in the meanest Person be accounted the vilest Action that could be; and as Degrees of Vice are render'd worse by so much the higher Station the Person guilty appears in, so consequently an Injury, Pyrac-y, or Robbery committed by the Hands of publick Power must be of more Prejudice than a private one; let any unbiass'd Person, then, (of any Nation whatever) determine whether a Monarch who authorizes his Dependants to do as aforesaid, does not break the Universal Chain of Peace, and violate the strictest social Ties; and whether by his Neighbours and Allies he should not be look'd upon as unworthy any *League* or Contract of Friendship whatever; be considered as an Enemy of Mankind, on whose Word no one can rely, and on whose Faith or Honour there is no Dependance.

The *Algerines* and *Salle Rovers* are look'd upon by all Nations as Pyrates, who accordingly go arm'd, and prepared to receive 'em. The wild *Arabs* make no scruple of robbing the *Caravan* as it crosses the Desarts, but by professing themselves Enemies, and continually repeating such Attempts, they are guarded against as such: But for a Christian Nation, that pretends to be civilized and polished, to rob and plunder the unwary, unguarded Merchant, who is following lawful Traffick, and at a Time, as is declared, of profound Peace, is an Action that can admit of no Palliation or Excuse. To bring this Matter near-

er Home, —when Treaties of Commerce have been made, the Terms amicably settled between two Nations, (which is the Case of *England* and *Spain*) when the Limits have been fixed, and the Boundaries assign'd how far each shall carry its Trade into the others Dominions, yet shall they under any Colour or Pretence, plunder our Ships, abuse our Mariners, and even carry their Insults so far as to make Scoffs at, and even abuse the Government itself? What mean Opinion must the World have of a People that can bear these Insults? and how contemptible must they look in the Eyes of every Foreigner. —There have been Ages when the cutting off an *Englishman's* Ears, or even detaining his Ship, but for one Day, on Pretences more plausible than the *Spaniards* can now make, would have been punish'd with a Vengeance due to such an Insolence, when the *British* Cannon would have spoke their Minds, and made more effectual Satisfaction, than all the PERSUASION any Man upon Earth is Master of.

But the *Spaniards* seem to have cunningly found our Blind-Side, and judging of the Nation's *peaceable Disposition* and great *good Nature* in suffering themselves to be thus treated, yet bearing all with Christian Meekness, and concluding by small Things of the Consequences of greater, have made Captures of two or three to try our Spirits, and having found them so very tame and gentle, I don't doubt, but they imagine they have an equal
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Right to insult the whole Nation ; and 'tis not impossible but their haughty Pride may one Day prompt them to attempt a Conquest of the Kingdom, and fit out another formidable *Armada* ; if they should, whether it will be attended with the same Success on our Side, as in that, Heaven only knows !

Barbarous and full of Deceit hath ever been the Treatment we have met with from *Spain*, but this more cruel and less justifiable than any heretofore. *England* was never yet used in this Manner, many and repeated have been their Insults, but the most remarkable is that, where they cut off the Captain's Ears in Derision, bade him carry them Home, and tell his Master, if he was there, they'd serve him the same. — Maiming in the Law is accounted a Crime as punishable as Murder, tho' even from one Native to another, and shall a Foreigner commit such an Act on an *Englishman*, and no Vengeance required ? Others have been hung with Weights at their Feet to make them confess an illicit Trade, when they were entirely free from any such Thing. 'Tis alledg'd that the *Spaniards* may urge a sudden Fury. A very Christian Excuse indeed ! The Time was when Satisfaction for a Pair of *English* Ears would have been insisted on, and the Villain, who perpetrated the Fact, would have been deliver'd up to the just Vengeance he deserved : But, to the Praise of the *English* Flag be it spoken ! we could tamely pocket such Affronts, and our bravest Admirals might break their Hearts for slipping the most favourable

vourable Opportunity to chastize the proud and cunning *Spaniard*!

The Dangers of the Sea, occasion'd by Storms and other Casualties, are sufficient to deter many from going to Sea. When Navigation was in its Infancy, and nothing but little Coasting Vessels were invented, it was look'd on as a Sort of Madness and Presumption to tempt an Element not design'd for them by Nature, and which could arise only from an insatiable Thirst of Lucre; in this Manner was Navigation treated not only by the most celebrated *Roman* Poets, but even by several Historians, nay even so late as the Reign of our *Henry* the 8th; but such kind of Reasoning is now exploded, and a Man would be laugh'd at as a ridiculous Enthusiast, who should talk of the *Wickedness* of Navigation and Merchandize in their Days, or treat them as an unnatural and presumptuous Insult upon Providence: The *Sea*, no doubt, was created for our Use as well as the *Earth*, especially for the Use and Defence of *those* who live in Islands, and are generally allow'd to be the first *Masters of the Sea*; and 'tis certain that our Forefathers distinguish'd themselves very early in the Art of Navigation, and long since arriv'd at the highest Pitch of Maritime Power.

Rocks, Quicksands, and the Danger of the Seas only, were what they had to encounter; these Difficulties they surmounted, but of late Years we have not only them, but the constant Dread of Robbers and Plunderers;

derers; how unhappy then must he be, who, after having by the Providence of Heaven escaped the Danger of the inconstant Waves, and sees his honest Industry likely to be crown'd with a happy Voyage, and to reap the Harvest of his justly acquired Gains, how must he be disappointed, if in a Time of profound Peace, and almost secure in his Passage, he shall not be only stopp'd on the high Seas, robb'd and plunder'd of his acquir'd Substance, but even wounded, lash'd like the greatest Criminal, and sent naked and destitute Home, when (tho' Nature seems to prompt every one to avenge himself for Injuries done) he must sit down contented, tho' repining at his Loss, nor dare to call in Question the Barbarians that have treated him thus.

The *Spaniards* have certainly a further Design than we are aware of, that they behold with Envy our thriving Colonies is certain, they have for some Time past been very uneasy about them, but the settling of the new one of *Georgia* has quite exasperated them, and as I imagine the whole Dispute will end in this, I shall a little consider the Nature of settling Colonies, and more particularly this of *Georgia*, as it seems to me to be the whole Tendency of the *Spaniards*, by their late Proceedings to get that into their Hands, and so they will have an after view of Ousting us from all our Possessions in the *West-Indies*.

That every Nation has free Liberty to take Possession of an uninhabited Part of the World,

or one 'till then unknown, and discovered by a Subject of that Nation, is, what I believe no one will dispute ; Nay, the *Europeans* carry it still further, and think they have an undoubted right to make themselves Masters of any Part of *America* they can obtain, driving the poor Natives thence, or making them subject to them, and provided the *European* Potentates do not seize any Land in the Possession or District allotted to the 'others, they are suffer'd peaceably to enjoy their former Acquisitions, or any new ones they can make from the Natives.

'Tis by these Settlements or Plantations, that they rid their own Kingdom from the Burden of a Number of Artificers which may be useless at Home, but there more necessary and useful both to themselves and others ; 'tis by this that they extend their Commerce, and by Traffick and frequent Converse, redeem the ignorant Natives from their Stupidity, and inspire them with the Notions of Truth and Knowledge, soften them from their Barbarity, and rouse them from a State scarce superior to the Brutes to think and act like social Creatures.

The *Romans* knew the Advantage of this perfectly well, they extended their victorious Arms over almost all the present known World, and wherever they came, conquer'd but to free them from Slavery to their Vices and Passions, and subdued Barbarians but to polish them ; by this their Fame grew universal, was of Benefit to their Colonies, and
of

of the greatest and truest Honour to themselves.

Since their Decline, their Conquests have been divided among several Nations, who in Imitation of them have spread themselves into the remotest Parts of the Earth, and to Places they never knew.

Among the *Europeans*, the chief Nations that have settled the most Colonies are the *English*, *Dutch*, and *Spaniards*, their Ships have travers'd the Globe, and been through all Degrees and Climates, by which their Power is extended to the utmost Verge of the Earth, and of these our own Nation has ever been esteem'd the most adventurous and most successful Sailors, so that our Monarch may properly be stiled King of both Sea and Land.

If the Settling of Colonies abroad is advantageous to a Nation, her Interest, as well as her Glory, is highly concern'd in the Defence of them. When *Georgia* began to be settled we were told, and I believe very truly, what vast Benefit would accrue to *Great Britain* from such a Settlement, particularly in the article of saving 500,000*l.* Sterling a Year, which was then paid to *Piedmont* for Raw Silk: This alone was an Object, had there been no other to encourage us, so well worth our Attention, that the whole Nation unanimously gave into the Project of establishing Colonies in *Georgia*, and our Ministers deservedly gain'd a great deal of Honour by the hearty warmth, with

which they espoused and recommended it to the Consideration of Parliament; the Legislature had the same Opinion of it with the Ministers and the People, our Representatives acted like true Patriots in the Case, and we now see that Country in a most thriving Condition, by a parliamentary Sanction and Aid, by a Contribution of Gentlemen, whose laudable Generosity upon that Occasion will eternize their Names in our Annals, and by the Conduct of a Gentleman whose Judgment, Courage and indefatigable Diligence in the Service of his Country, have shewn him every way equal to so great and glorious an Undertaking; for this Reason this Man is now become the Butt of the Resentments of *Spain*, because he has served his Country like a brave, vigilant, and faithful *Englishman*, at the Expence of his Repose, and to the manifest Peril of his Life.

The *Spanish* Court has the Modesty to demand from *England*, that he shall not be any longer employ'd, but I hope the Ministers of *Philip* the Vth. don't think that we have a *James the First* on the Throne, or a *Gondamor* now at Court, so that we have no Reason to fear that he will fall a Victim to Malice and Ambition, like his Predecessor the great Sir *Walter Raleigh*.

If ever any Settlement has been universally applauded by *Great Britain*, that of *Georgia* has been so; the Uneasiness it gave our old Friends the *French*, first gave me a just Idea of its Value: They said the
Spaniards

Spaniards neither would nor could suffer it to go on; and from what I then both heard and saw, I am persuaded that the late Demand of the Catholick Court, concerning *Georgia*, took its Rise somewhere else as well as at *Madrid*; whatever Interest the *Spaniards* may pretend, 'tis *France* that has the greatest Interest in the Destruction of that Colony: the *Indians* that are our Friends are not only so, but Enemies to the *French* and their *Indians*; should we then abandon them, such an Impolitick as well as ungenerous and shameful Step in us, might in Time be attended with fatal Consequences, not only to the rest of our Colonies on the Continent of *America*, but to all future Undertakings of the like Nature, how advantageous soever they may seem. Our other *Indians* may probably fall from us by Degrees, as a People upon whose Faith, Honour, or Friendship they could not depend; and should they do so, I believe *England* would soon find the Effects of it.

How far we are then obliged, by Honour and Interest to protect our Settlements in *Georgia*, and even to increase them, is already so obvious to every *Briton*, that I think it is needless to say any more on that Head.

It seems the *Spaniards* claim that Country, by the seventh Article made between us and them in the Year 1670, though upon examining that Article, every Tittle of it makes directly against them, except they can prove that they were then in actual Possession of *Georgia*, and should they even prove so much

as that, they have broken every other Article of that very Treaty upon which they ground their Claim, and justify their insolent Demand upon us. What I say will appear even to Demonstration, by comparing the Murders, Devastations, Plunders, and Robberies, committed by the *Spanish Guarda Costas* on the Subjects and Ships of *Great Britain*, with the 4th, 10th, and 11th Articles of the Treaty upon which they lay so much Stress, and which they say still exists by Virtue of the Treaty of *Utrecht*. A very merry, and a very impudent Way of proceeding indeed! to claim the Benefit of *one single Article* of a Treaty, and with the utmost Insolence and Barbarity to break *All* the rest; this is *Spanish* Logic with a Witness.

But why is this extraordinary Claim trump't up at this Time of Day? Why was it not made when we were beginning our Settlement in *Georgia*? I believe there is hardly a Man in *England* of common Understanding but what can answer these Questions: Our Settlement in that Country was begun at a Time when both *France* and *Spain* look'd upon it too delicate a Point to provoke us, they had other Regions first to hook in; our Friendship was therefore to be courted then, and this Demand kept in *Petto* by Way of grateful Return for it!

What can we impute this Demand to? surely the Queen of *Spain* does not think we are to be hector'd into making more Infant Kings.

But

But let *Spain's* Views be what they will, I dare venture to say, that our Ministers will as soon consent to part with their Eyes, as to part with *Georgia*; they were very well satisfied with our Right to that Province, before they began the Settlement of it, and they now experimentally know how much the Nation has it at Heart: they may therefore very reasonably expect the Concurrence of the Nation in defending it.

To what a Height is the Insolence of this haughty Court risen? that after a Demand the most flagrant in its Kind, after having hewed our Men with Cutlasses, cropp'd their Ears, hung Weights at their Feet, and several other Actions of the most enormous Cruelty, they still continue their Naval Armament, without declaring War, nay and threaten us with their intended Invasion.

Peace is doubtless an inestimable Blessing, in Times of Security; the Merchant extends his Traffick, and Trade is certainly our *Summum Bonum*; but are the *Spaniards* in *America* at Peace with us? can our Merchants who only desire the free Enjoyment of their own Property and lawful Commerce, be said at present to extend their Traffick in a Time of Security, sure no body can say they do; if therefore the *Spaniards* are allowed to go on with Impunity, and *Englishmen* even excuse them in their Crimes — the *Facilis descensus averni*, &c. is very applicable. It is an easy Matter for a Nation to lose or give up it's Rights and
Sovereignty,

Sovereignty, but to recover them is the Labour and the Difficulty.

Their *Guarda Costas* have ruined many a worthy Merchant, and many able Mariners are now in a worse than *Turkish* Slavery under them, even the Ships they have taken from us they make Use of to go a Privateering against others; this I believe, is not only owing to the natural Innate Hatred they bear us, but I am afraid has been the Consequence of the Advice and Intrigues of some of our Neighbours; it calls loudly for Satisfaction, the Honours of *Great Britain*, as well as the Reparation due to our Merchants, is now highly concerned in our Conduct: Our Courage I believe is still as great, and our Swords as sharp (if we were suffer'd to make Use of them) as they were in the late War; and as the Government seems sensibly touch'd with our Sufferings, and willing to procure us the Satisfaction we demand of the *Spaniards*, either by fair Means or Force, I hope we shall soon receive it and be secured from any further Depredations.

If *Spain* considers the antient Maxims of her Court, *Peace with England and War with all the World beside*, she will bring this Affair to a speedy and amicable End without Blood-shed or Expence on either Side, which can scarce be honourably or safely avoided by us if we meet with any further Delays or other Excuses, but even we ourselves ought rather to wish for a friendly Conclusion of it, when we consider the Importance of the *Spanish* Trade,

Trade, and reflect that once she was an Ally, though never a staunch One, yet much better than she has been since a Prince of the House of *Bourbon* became possessed of her Throne, and her Court under the Influence of *France*. This is the Gordian Knot which either Satisfaction and Security for our Merchants must immediately untie, or our Swords must cut asunder, if we have any Regard to our Posterity.

These Complaints indeed have been of long standing, and we have had Warning enough what to expect from them, if some proper Methods were not taken to curb them in their Violence; but instead of receiving any Reparation, nay we have even been perfidiously treated by some of our *own Countrymen*, as a lawless band of Robbers and Pyrates; whilst the *Spaniards* have been suffered, I know not how, to go on with Impunity, and proceed to such Enormities at last, that it hath raised a general Alarm not only amongst the *immediate Sufferers*, but all the Mercantile part of the Kingdom, and even those who have so long endeavoured to depreciate their Losses and Sufferings, are obliged to own, that *something ought to be done*.

And if any one will put his Head into the City, or enquire into the present Rate of *Insurance* upon Ships bound from any Part of the *West-Indies*, will find they have too much Reason for their Complaints, and very far from wanting any other Instigation; and if some Stop be not immediately put to these

Depredations and Ravages, we may as well give up our Plantation Trade, and Right of Navigation in those Seas.

Upon these repeated Insults, the Merchants have presented an humble Petition to his Majesty for Redress, which in a few Words sets forth the State of the Case, and for which Reason, I shall insert it *Verbatim*.

To the King's most excellent Majesty.

The humble Petition of the Merchants, &c.

Sheweth,

THAT the fair and lawful Trade of your Majesty's Subjects to the British Plantations in America, hath been greatly interrupted for many Tears past, not only by their Ships having been frequently stopp'd and search'd, but also forcibly and arbitrarily seized on the High Seas by Spanish Ships fitted out to Cruize under the plausible Pretence of guarding their own Coasts; that the Commanders thereof with their Crews have been inhumanly treated, and their Ships carried into some of the Spanish Ports, and there condemned with their Cargoes, in manifest Violation of the Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns.

That notwithstanding the many Instances made by your Majesty's Ministers at the Court of Madrid, against this injurious Treatment, the late and repeated Insults of the Spaniards,
upon

upon the Persons and Properties of your Majesty's Subjects, lay your Petitioners under the Necessity of applying again to your Majesty for Relief.

That by these violent and unjust Proceedings of the Spaniards, the Trade to your Majesty's Plantations in America is rendered very precarious; and if any Nation be suffered thus to insult the Persons of your Majesty's Subjects, and plunder them of their Property, your Petitioners apprehend, it will be attended with such an Obstruction of that valuable Branch of Commerce, as will be very fatal to the Interest of Great Britain.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to procure speedy and ample Satisfaction to your Subjects for the Losses they have sustained; that no British Vessel be detained or searched on the High Seas by any Nations, under any Pretence whatsoever; and that the Trade to America be rendered sure for the Future, by such Means as your Majesty in your great Wisdom shall think fit.

And your Petitioners, &c.

Upon this Petition they gave in authentick Vouchers of the Losses they had sustain'd, and his Majesty was pleas'd to receive them very graciously, and appointed a Committee of his Cabinet Council, to hear the particular Matters of their Complaint, and we hope

there is no doubt of their receiving ample Satisfaction and Security.

I would be far from having the Presumption to point out a Method, or to prescribe any Way by which they might have Redress; but I can't help thinking, that if Leave were to be given, we have still among us, Gentlemen, who have Generosity, and publick Spirit enough to furnish forth Things necessary, without any Expence to the Government; and I believe we have Sailors, who are both able and willing to *beat* them into good Manners, which was always the best Method to deal with *Sain*.

The *Spaniards* have taken upon them to be Judges of their own Cause, and even condemn, unheard: but to examine into that Matter a little, we will consider it in the following Manner.

The Treaty of 1667 not only establishes a free Trade between *Great Britain* and *Spain*, in all Places where it was at any Time allow'd, but likewise stipulates that in case of any Injury, on either Side, Letters of Reprisal shall not be granted, until Justice hath been demanded in the ordinary Course of Law; but if Satisfaction be not made within six Months after it is demanded, then the Party injured is to be allow'd Letters of Reprisal. This Article makes directly against them, even if our Merchants had been guilty, (which I am far from saying they have) but even in that Case, as they complain of our carrying on an illicit and contraband Trade, should

should they not first have complain'd? Our Merchants have complained of their unjust Captures Time after Time, and are they not by that intitled to Letters of Reprisal, even according to the strictest Tenor of this Treaty?

It is further declared in the same Treaty, that no *British* Ships or other Vessels shall be visited or molested in the King of *Spain's* Dominions by the Judges of Contraband Goods, or any other Persons, except two or three Custom-house Officers, until the said Ships or Vessels are unladen, but shall only be oblig'd to shew their Passports or Sea Letters; and if any prohibited Goods should be detected, the said Goods *only* are to be forfeited, and not the *other* Goods; neither is the Party offending to incur any other Punishment, unless he carried out of *Great Britain* the *proper Coin, Wool, or Fuller's Earth*; or from the *Spanish* Dominions any *Gold or Silver*.

This Treaty is confirm'd by the *American* Treaty in the Year 1670, with several considerable Improvements; particularly the Article which acknowledges our Right to all Places in the *West-Indies*, or in any Part of *America*, which were then in our Possession; and in both those Treaties the Nature of contraband Goods is particularly explain'd, *viz.* all Sorts of Ammunition and Warlike Stores, bound to an Enemy's Port; as well as Gold, Silver, Fuller's Earth and Wool, (as before-mentioned) but I don't meet with one

one Word about *Logwood*, which grows in *Jamaica*, as well as in several other Parts of the *West-Indies*, not belonging to the Crown of *Spain*; and though Gold and Silver both wrought and unwrought, are specifically excepted in the Treaties before-mentioned, they were afterwards allowed by the *Affiento Contract*; so that if the South Sea Company bring any of these Goods to *Jamaica*, or any of our other Colonies, and our Merchant Men can prove they came laden from thence with proper Passports and Sea Letters, as I am inform'd most of them can, the *Spaniards* have not the least Pretence for making Prize of them: nay further, to shew their Cruelty in this very Circumstance, it is not long since by an accidental Fire, *Panama*, a Settlement of theirs, was burnt to the Ground; the People were in the utmost Distress, and sent to one of our Plantations, which was nearest to them, to be relieved; the *English* Governor, tho' he might have refus'd justly, according to the Usage we have met with from them, yet very generously sent them Provisions and other Necessaries in Exchange for their Commodities, which Goods he could not let lie dead there, and accordingly shipp'd them for *England*: the *Spaniards*, in grateful Return, condemn'd the Ships and Cargoes that had any of those Goods on board, and carried the Men into Slavery; one of which particularly was Captain *Wey*, of the *Loyal Charles*. Upon which the Merchants in several of our Plantations

Abroad

Abroad have petitioned their Governors for Redress, tho' I don't yet find that they have had any. On the contrary, some even of our own Nation seem to justify them in their Proceedings; they alledge that it is right to take care of the *South Sea* Company, as well as of the *West-India*: To which I answer, that even there *Spain*, what a Delay has she made, and how many trifling Difficulties has she started to drive off, as long as she can, the Schedule for the Annual Ship; in which she has given us a Specimen how far she may be relied upon? It is further urged, that before we take a military Satisfaction, we should be able to justify it to the World, and shew the indispensable Necessity of it. If the Wrongs we have already received, will not justify such Proceedings, I think no one can blame the *Spaniard* for pursuing them till they will justify it, and further would ask, whether in the Reign of the immortal Queen *Elizabeth*, *Spain* was not chastized for less Insults than these, upon the first Complaint of her Subjects; her Heart shared in their Grievances; her Arms were ready to relieve them, and her Fleets sailed immediately to avenge the Injustice done them; Her Admirals were not suffer'd to lie still with their Hands tied, nor sent out at a vast Expence to combat Worms and Fluxes, and let the Enemy unpunish'd dare them to their very Teeth. The following Queries have been elsewhere ask'd, among several others, and I think very proper to be repeated here.

Was ever any Officer punish'd in her Reign for vindicating the Honour of the *English* Flag?

Were any of her Embassadors or Envoys reprimanded, for insisting too strenuously on the *Rights* of their Countrymen at a Foreign Court?

Were any of her Dominions ever attack'd in Time of Peace without a proper Resentment?

Was there ever any *English* Ship plunder'd, or any *Englishman's* Ears cut off and sent to her in Derision, without due Vengeance taken?

Did she ever send out a powerful Fleet at a vast publick Expence to *perswade* her Enemies to do her Justice?

To which I would add the following one.

Would *Drake* or *Frobisher*, or *Raleigh*, have suffer'd them to go on so long with Impunity, or only try to make 'em civil by giving them good Words?

Our *very good Neighbours* the *French* seem to outgo us in every Thing; they have done themselves Justice on a Nation from whom they had received far less Outrages, than we have from the *Spaniards*, and this so recent, that methinks it should be an Example to us, and serve to rouse us from our Lethargy.

The Inhabitants of *Mocha* had made the *French* pay higher Duties than they were formerly wont to do; some of their Merchants refused it, upon which the *Arabs* detained

tained them; the *French* did not according to the *modern Fashion* send a formal Embassy to try to PERSWADE them into Reason by Dint of Argument; No, they thought their Cannon and Mortars would speak much better, and accordingly sent a Fleet of Ships which bombarded the Place, and soon convinc'd them they were in the Wrong.

Nay even the *Dutch* (if Report be true) have rous'd themselves before us, and are resolved to wait no longer the repeated Delays of the *Spanish* Court to do them Justice; but have sunk some of their piratical *Guarda Costa's*. *England* did not use to be behind the *Dutch* in doing her Subjects ample Justice, nor I hope will not now.

If we consider rightly, the *Spaniards* have ow'd us a Grudge for above this Century; they can scarce keep within Bounds, but will every now and then launch out, for which they have frequently been chastiz'd by us, and almost always came off with the Loss. In Queen *Elizabeth's* Time, what a Thorn we were in their Sides, every body knows. What an immense Treasure did they lose by their *Armada*? In force we have even been their Superiors; and all the Mischief they ever did us, was by undermining our Councils by their Politick Embassies at our own home, and cajoling our Statesmen, unadvisedly to give up the Nation's Privileges.

To prove this, all the Advantages we obtain'd over them in Queen ELIZABETH's Reign, were yielded up by the Weakness of

a *Cecil* to the Cunning of a *Gundamor* in the pacifick Reign of King *James I.* Nay, so strong was his Artifice, and his Resentment for the Terror caus'd in his Country by the brave, but unfortunate, Sir *Walter Raleigh*, that thro' *Gundamor's* Intrigue, and the *Foible* (not to give it a worse Name) of that great Statesman before-mention'd, this undaunted Hero, who had given so many Shocks to SPAIN, and done such Service to his Country, fell a Victim to the Pride of SPAIN, and the indelible Folly of ENGLAND.

Nor can they (tho' in *Peace* with us now) forget the rough Treatment they met with in the last War; the taking of *Vigo*, and burning the *Galleons*, still sticks in their stomachs. The Affair of *Messina* is still recent in their Memory, and I am afraid they can't yet help looking with an envious Eye at our *Mediterranean* Fortresses. But what above all has irritated them, was our sending a Fleet so opportunely to the *Tagus*. They know they are an unequal Match in case of an open Rupture; and therefore only stab us sily, as it were, in the dark.

They have gone on so long, that they may well imagine we never intend to restrain them; but (as I am inform'd) some Men of War are order'd to protect our Trade in the *Indies*; if their Commissions are full, I don't doubt but that every ENGLISH Sailor would be glad of the Voyage; but if they are only to pay them a civil Visit, and ask them how they do? Lord, have Mercy upon us!

We

We have Admirals fit to be employ'd,
Men of undaunted Resolution, and sound
Conduct, and when their Country's Wrongs
call them, as now, I question not but they
would willingly spill their dearest Blood to
do it Justice. We have Sailors, reckon'd the
most expert in the World, who are now forc'd
to wander from Country to Country for a
bare Subsistence in Foreign Services, who
would be glad to oppose any Enemy for the
Good of their native Country, some of them
are even now fighting in the *Czarina's* Service,
and are the very Flower of her Fleet: Our
Ships were never in a better Condition, which
I cannot better express than by a little Epi-
gram I lately met with.

English Oak, or the Spaniard's Scourge.

From a small Acorn see the Oak arise

Supremely tall, and tow'ring in the Skies!

Queen of the Groves her stately Head she rears,

Her Bulk increasing with the length of Years;

Now ploughs the Seas a warlike gallant Ship,

While in her Womb destructive Thunders sleep.

Hence Britain boasts her wide extensive Reign,

And by th' expanded Acorn rules the Main.

And that Success may crown their Endeavours, that the Merchants may be relieved to their Satisfaction, those Pyrates prevented from thus insulting our Sailors, and the Glory and Honour of the *British Nation*, and *Flag* vindicated, as it must be the sincere Wish of every *honest Briton*, so likewise is it of,

Sir,

Yours &c.

A

D I A L O G U E

BETWEEN

King Henry 8. King Edward 6. Prince Henry, Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth, and Queen Anne.

H. 8. **H**OW doth Spain and the Netherlands agree?

E. 8. Spain hath so long inured and enforced the Hollanders to Blood and Wars, as now at Sea and Land, they are become such brave Soldiers and Mariners, as they fear not Spain, and to love Spaniards they vow tis impossible, much less to obey them.

Q. M. It is pity that King Philip the second ended not the chastising and conquest of these heretick Hollanders, e'er King Philip the Third began it, or that he cannot reduce them to obedience, by ending these Wars with more fortunacy, and less danger and damage.

Q. E. Nay, Sister, it is pity that these two Kings of Spain, and the Archduke Albertus
and

and Isabella, have from Time to Time been so ambitious, inhuman, cruel and revengeful, to drown the Face of the Netherlands with many Deluges of Blood, in seeking to preserve their Liberty, Lives and Consciences from the cruel Tyranny and Inquisition of Spain.

P. H. Indeed for this forty Years the Netherlands hath been the School and Threatre of *Mars*, whereon there hath been more brave Soldiers and renowned Captains slain, than in any Country of the World, or in many precedent Ages; and yet all this Blood is not capable to quench Spain's Ambition and Tyranny, in seeking to devour those Provinces.

Q. A. Hath not Spain assaulted the Netherlands as well by Treachery as Hostility?

Q. E. Yes, witness the damnable Villain Gerrard, who long since murdered William the famous Prince of Orange, their Lieutenant General, and Father to Maurice, that valiant and incomparable Captain, who now succeeds him in his Principality.

Q. M. O Sister, cast not so base an Aspersion on King Philip my Husband, to affirm he was accessory to the Murther of William Prince of Orange, much less authorised or commanded it.

P. H. All the Ocean between Holland and Spain cannot wash off that Murder from your Husband King Philip, for his Proscription to murder him bears it, and his Lieutenant the Duke of *Parma* commanded the Count Assouille to deal with Gerrard about this Murder,
who

who promised him twenty-five thousand Crowns to effect it, which, O Grief to speak it, he did.

E. 6. But his valiant Son hath long since had Revenge for the Death of his Father.

Q. A. If he have not, he resolves to have it.

H. 8. But hath not Spain since attempted, or broached any other Treason towards the Hollanders?

P. H. O yes, very lately, for whilst Spain is Spain, Holland will never forget how near he was to have extinguished her Liberty, and surpris'd their State by infecting and corrupting their Secretary Barnevelt, a Man of so profound Wit, and deep Judgment and Experience in Matters of State, as he was not only the Oracle of the Netherlands, but the Ornament and Wonder of Europe, yea of his Time.

Q. E. See, see the Fruits of Spain's Gold, and the Effects of his boundless Ambition, for it is a common Custom with him, if not by the main, yet surely by the bye, to break the Neck of great Princes, and free Estates, publick Ministers, whether they are great Soldiers or great Statesmen, or both.

Q. A. Yea, the Web of this Treason was so cunningly woven, and so subtilly and finely spun, as if the Netherlands had not broken Barnevelt's Neck, he long e'er this had assuredly broken the Neck both of their Liberty and State.

Q. M. Well,

Q. M. Well, Barnevelt is gone, and now Spain needs not fear his Policy.

P. H. Nay, Barnevelt being dead, and Maurice, that famous Prince of Orange, living, Holland need not fear either the Treachery, or Force of Spain.

H. 8. But Nephew, I hear that the United Provinces of the Low-Countries will this Spring have Wars with Spain, for their Peace is near expired and ended.

P. H. A brave, noble, and wise Resolution of theirs.

E. 6. Heretofore England taught the Hollanders Wit and Valour, and now they resolve to shew England the Way to those two Virtues.

Q. M. But the Gold and Silver of Spain will prevail against them, and weigh them down.

P. H. But the Hollanders had Ships enough of their own, and Gold, Silver and Men from England, therefore they disdain to fear Spain, nay, rather they vow before the next Summer to make Spain fear them.

H. 8. See, see a handful of Men dare attempt that against Spain, which Great Britain's huge Infinity will not.

Q. E. And yet their Cause and Reason is England's, viz. their Consciences, Lives and Countries.

Q. A. Pray God England and France interpose not to cross the Wars, and seek to conclude a Peace between Holland and Spain.

E. 6. But

E. 6. But the Hollanders are resolved to make King *James* a large Offer to protect them against Spain.

Q. M. But King *James* loves Spain too well, and therefore will not hearken to, or regard their Proffer, for his Majesty is resolved not to protect them.

P. H. The more is the Pity.

Q. E. The more my Grief.

Q. M. And without Grief or Pity, the more is my Joy.

Q. E. I protected the Netherlands in Spight of Spain.

E. 6. But Spain went near by your Leicester, to betray both you and them.

H. 8. If King James would now protect the Netherlands, how easily might he refetch back *Flushing*, the *Brill*, and the *Ramekins*?

E. 6. Nay, how easily did his Majesty depart with them to the Netherlands?

P. H. It infinitely rejoiceth me to understand the Hollander's brave Resolution and Forwardness to have Wars with Spain.

Q. M. But there is a secret Trick to cool their Courages which they least think of.

H. 8. As how Daughter?

Q. M. Why, to pistol this Prince of Orange, as they did his Father.

Q. E. Heaven forbid it.

P. H. God defend it.

Q. M. Why 'tis but one for another; for he knowing *Barnevelt* a Traitor to his Country because a Pensioner to Spain, caused the Lords States to put him to Death, why then

(in

(in exchange and requital) should not a Pensioner of Spain either poison or pistol the Prince of Orange?

E. 6. These diabolical Resolutions and bloody Positions come from Hell.

Q. E. And thither they go that profess and practice them.

Q. M. The King of Spain is too religious to authorise so execrable a Murder.

Q. E. But the Pope, as holy as he is, will pardon it, and yet the World, I hope, knows, that the King of Spain cannot be so religious as his Holiness.

Q. A. It were good then for Holland to be careful of their Prince of Orange's Life; as all the World knows his Excellency is of their Safety and Preservations.

P. H. And it will likewise behove them to observe withal (as I hope they do) how subtilly and treacherously *Spinola* takes their Neighbour Towns for the Emperor, and keeps them for the King of Spain his Master.

E. 6. And if the Wars goes on 'twixt Holland and Spain, as I hope they will, it will be needful for Spain to have a special Care of his West-Indies from the Holland Fleets.

H. 8. Wherefore only Spain's West-Indies, or rather why not all the World's West-Indies; since their red and white Earth sets all the World on Fire and in Combustion.

Q. A. Surely, e'er this Summer pass, and the next appear, the Hollanders vow to have a Heave at them.

Q

Q. M. Nay,

Q. M. Nay, I hope the contrary, for the West-Indies is the main and only Prop of Spain, which if once found out, and taken away from them, will quickly make the Greatness of his Ambition and Empire totter.

P. H. Till when, all other Kingdoms and Estates of Christendom may think themselves exempt from Spain's Fear, but shall never be from his Danger.

Q. E. This Holland perfectly and apparently knows, and it were a greater Happiness for the rest of Europe, if they would herein imitate their Generosity, Valour and Wisdom, who stand on their Guards with their Swords drawn, and their Match lighted ready to give Fire; as being constantly and virtuously resolved neither to love, trust, nor fear Spain.

H. 8. But now leave we all other Countries, and come we to England, from whence being descended, we by the Laws of Nature, are eternally obliged to honour and love it; yea to prefer it and its Prosperity and Glory to all other Countries of the World; wherefore let us see Spain's Ambition and Envy towards it; and how he hath from Time to Time borne himself to the English.

Q. M. There is no Kingdom in the World, that Spain loves better than England.

Q. E. Nor no People under the Sun that it hates more than Englishmen.

E. 6. For Peter King of Castille most ingratfully and basely abused our famous and generous Edward the Black Prince (the Ornament

name of Arms, the Glory of England, and the Honour of the World) and his whole Army in Spain, after that he had inthronized and seated the said Peter in his Kingdom, and with his victorious Arms expell'd Henry the Bastard, who usurped it.

Q. M. If Spain had not loved England and Englishmen, King Philip would never have married me.

Q. E. He loved you well, Sister, but your Kingdom far better; for you were the Object of his Zeal, but England that of his Ambition.

H. 8. But, Elizabeth, he hated you more than ever he loved Mary.

Q. E. And yet I dare truly affirm, that King Philip loved my Kingdom far more than ever he hated my Person.

H. 8. To speak Truth, Daughter, he neither loved you, nor Mary, his Wife and Queen, but only England.

P. H. And I have heard, that if he had never married my Aunt Mary, she had never lost Calais; nor consequently England, France.

E. 6. Though that Match was unfortunate to England in the Loss of Calais, yet it was fortunate in that Philip and Mary had no Children.

Q. M. If we had had any Males, England had been long since a Province to Spain.

Q. E. God knew so much, and therefore prevented it, wherein I bless his Mercy and Providence, as also your Sterility.

P. H. Aunt, and I your Resolution in speaking it.

Q. M. The Kings of Spain are the greatest and most potent Kings of the World.

Q. E. Yea, in Ambition and Ostentation, but not in Power; for I proved it not so, I found it not so, I left it not so.

P. H. You, Madam, found War with Spain surer and safer than Peace.

Q. E. Yea, far more safer, and far more profitable too for England.

Q. A. Then I wonder that King James my Husband so delights and drowns himself in his Peace with Spain.

Q. M. O, but Spain finds both Policy and Reason enough to lull King James asleep in the Cradle of Peace and Security,

Q. E. I never feared Spain less than when I loved it not, nor more than when it made greatest shew to love me.

P. H. And the King my Father never loved it more, than now when he fears it.

E. 6. But is it possible King James fears Spain?

P. H. It seems so, for else he would never love it so excessively.

Q. E. Sir Nicholas Bacon, my Chancellor, on his Death-bed, wrote me a Letter, that the Glory and Conservation of England consisted in holding Spain at Rapiers Point; and will not his Son, Sir Francis, the now Chancellor, tell his Master so much?

P. H. O no, he is otherwise employed.

H. 8. But

H. 8. But tell me, Daughter; Was Spain ever treacherous to your Person?

Q. E. Almost every Year Spain hatched me a new Treason, witness Pary, Babbington, Williams, Yeorke, Lopez, and infinite others, who sought to lay violent Hands on my Person and Life, but that God in his infinite Mercy and Providence still protected and defended me, to their own Confusion.

P. H. But King *Philip* II. chiefly discovered his Love to England, in the treacherous Attempt of his huge Armado of 88, (term'd by the Pope, in a Bravery, *The invincible Fleet*), at what Time his Ambition and greedy Desire of Usurpation, so far overstay'd him and his Council, as he thought, to have made an absolute Conquest of England; but he was deceived of his Hopes; for God look'd on England with his indulgent Eye of Pity and Compassion, and on that great and mighty Naval Army with Contempt and Detestation.

Q. E. Yea, God was so gracious to England, and so merciful to me, as not only my Ships and People, but the Winds and Waves fought for my Defence, and that of my Countrey, against the Pride and Malice of Spain, who grew mad with Anger, and pale with Grief, to see this his great and warlike Armado beaten, foiled and confounded, in the midst of their Glory and Ambition.

E. 6. But Sister, was this all Spain's Malice and Treachery towards you and your State?

Q. E. No,

Q. E. No, no, for I had forgotten how before that, his Majesty in Spain, and his Lieutenant the Duke of Alva in Flanders embark'd and confisk'd a World of Goods and Ships that belong'd to my Subjects, contrary to all Laws of Conscience and Nations.

P. H. And no other.

Q. E. Yes, King Philip begg'd my Kingdom of Ireland of the Pope, and so assisted the Rebels, and made a Confederacy with them for the Conquest thereof from me, bringing in first Stukley, then Don Juan of Aquilla into that Kingdom to the same Effect: But Heaven always laugh'd at their Ambition, Usurpation, and Treachery, which still proved as vain, as impious and unjust.

P. H. And yet see the Justice of the Cause, and the Equity of your Arms; for Essex landed at Calais, and in Despight of Spain took and rifled it, beating and sinking their best and greatest Ships, in a manner without any shew of Defence or Resistance.

Q. M. O, but now the Times are altered and changed, for then Spain was poor and England rich, and now England is poor and Spain rich: Likewise Spain's Wars, Parsimony and Frugality, makes his Men Soldiers; and our Peace, Pride and Superfluity, hath made our Soldiers either Courtiers or Cowards.

H. 8. France knew that I found Soldiers in England, when I took Tournay and Bologne.

Q. E. And Spain felt that the English were Soldiers, when my Drake beat them
on

on my Seas, and Coasts in 88; my Norris at Croyden in 94; my Essex at Calais in 96; and my Montjoy at Kingfale in 1600.

Q. M. But then England was delighted in Combats, Wars and Victories, and now in Stage-Plays, Masks, Revels and Carousing, so as their Courages are become as rusty as their Swords and Muskets, which serve to grace the Walls, and not the Fields, except in poor Musters, and slight Trainings; and that but once a Year; which upon the whole, is more for Ostentation than Service: Moreover, then England's Navy-Royal could give a Law to the Ocean, and now Time and Negligence hath almost made all these Ships unserviceable, who lie rotting at Chatham and Rochester.

E. 6. Here Queen Mary hath Reason, for now she is in the Truth.

Q. E. What (Sister and Brother) my Royal Navy lie rotting, who are the Bulwarks and Walls of England, and when I left them were capable to beat the Power and Pride of Spain to Shivers; O this grieves me! but I believe not that my wise and prudent Successor King James will suffer or permit it, I pray, Godson and Nephew Prince Henry, resolve me hereof.

P. H. Indeed Madam, I confess, I have seen so much myself, when God knows I grieved to see it; neither did I fail to put the King my Father often in Remembrance thereof; and his Majesty still promised me to new build and repair that Royal Fleet, to which

Number

Number I added my Prince-Royal, a Ship, who had she many Fellows, England need not fear all the Fleets of the World ; but although the old Lord Admiral hath not been careful for the Preservation of the Navy, yet the new one is.

H. 8. If he be not, I grieve for the Fleet.

Q. E. And I lament it.

E. 6. And I pity it.

Q. A. And I bewail it.

Q. M. And not to dissemble, both Gondamor, King Philip his Master, the Pope, myself, and all the Roman Catholicks of England rejoice hereat; for the Impotency and Destruction of this Royal Navy, is the Harbinger to prepare the Way, and a Step for King Philip to mount the Throne of Estate ; to pluck off King James's Crown, and to place and settle it on his own Head.

Q. E. O my Ships, my Ships : God knows they are still dear to me, because still necessary to England. Where is my Drake, where my Cumberland, my Forbisher, my Granville, my Cavendish, my Hawkins, my Raleigh, and the rest? Alas they want me, and King James, and England wants them; for when they lived, and I reigned, our Valour could stop the Progression of Spain; yea, my Ships domineer'd in his Seas and Ports, and their Clouds of Smoke and Fire, with their Peals of Thunder, struck such Amazement to the Hearts, and Terror to the Courages of Castile and her faint-hearted Castilians, that every Spanish Bird kept his own Nest, not powerful enough

to

to defend themselves, much less to offend any, and lest of all, England, who was then in her Triumphs, in her Lustre, in her Glory.

P. H. Grieve no more dear Aunt for the Navy Royal of England; for although Nottingham were remiss and careless herein, yet brave Buckingham hath of late Years set a new Face on that Fleet; and makes it not only his Delight, but his Glory to re-edify and reform them; yea there is not a Year passes him, but he brings some new forth from their Docks, and puts in other old, although Cranfield (resembling himself) bites his Lips at the Charge thereof, because he affirms he hath other Occasions to disburse, and pay away the Kings Treasure.

Q. E. Nephew Wales, I am glad to hear that Buckingham is so careful of England's Fleet-Royal, and in every Deed, his Ambition, Care, and Zeal herein, will infallibly purchase him much Love and Honour of the whole Kingdom, especially if he continue it.

H. 8. Methinks Scotland annexed and united to England, should make it far the stronger.

Q. E. But how could King James say, England and Scotland is strong, when he fears the Power of Spain, and will not know or believe his own.

E. 6. Yea, it were much Honour to the King, and Happiness to his Kingdoms and Subjects, if in any Point (knowing the Weakness thereof) he would fortify and reform it.

H

Q. A. And

Q. A. And it were a great Happiness for most Kingdoms and free Estates of Europe, if they woul follow the Examples of the Venetians and Hollanders, who will neither trust, nor love, much less, fear Spain.

P. H. And among the rest, if England would follow it, they should draw Security out of Dangers, whereas now her apparent Danger is drawn and derived from her apparent Security.

Q. A. O, that the King my Husband would think hereof.

P. H. O, that the King my Father would make Use hereof.

Q. E. O, that King James, my Heir and Successor, would hearken or believe the contrary hereof.

H. 8. But this were the Way to have Wars with Spain, and King James, I understand, is resolved to live and die in Peace with them.

Q. M. War cannot be bought at a cheap Rate.

Q. E. But it is Pity that Peace should be bought at too dear and dishonourable a Rate.

P. H. I have always been informed that England still gets by her Wars with Spain.

Q. E. I got by my Wars with Spain, and Spain lost by it.

P. H. My Father and his Subjects lose by his Peace with Spain, and Spain gets by it.

Q. M. When England hath lost herself, she can lose no more.

T O

*Count Gondomar, Ambassador for Philip
III. King of Spain, resident with
JAMES, King of Great Britain.*

YOUR Excellency may understand, that I have dispatched Mercury to you in England, to advertise you of a Consultation held here in Heaven, by my Father King Henry VIII, my Brother King Edward VI, my Sister Queen Elizabeth, Queen Anne, Prince Henry, and myself, concerning your Master's Pretences, and Hopes of England, by the Match of the Infanta, his Daughter, with Prince Charles, which all the other five have opposed as prejudicial and dangerous, and myself maintained as profitable and honourable for England; for loving Philip the Father, I must and will ever honour Philip, his Son: They have likewise reap'd up and unmask'd Spain's former Ambition, Cruelty, and Treachery, as well towards England, as other Kingdoms and States of Europe, the Discovery and Relation whereof, I could neither silence nor prevent; your Excellency must give me leave to signify, that I fear your Secretaries are not so honest, as yourself, Politick; for you are here by these Princes brought on
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the Stage in your naked and natural Colours ; therefore I could wish you to be more modest and not so busy, only to the utmost of your mortal Power, knit the Knot of this Match ; for if it hold, the Heart of England will be soon broken ; or, if the contrary, it will infallibly break the Neck of the King your Master's general Hopes and Pretences, and also of your own particular Credit and Reputation, as well in England, as Spain ; you have many Eyes over you, and although your sweet Words and Promises lull King James asleep, you will nevertheless go near to be circumvented, by those you seek to circumvent. If you can bring in the Infanta, doubt you not but she will usher in the Pope, and consequently he the Catholick King, your Master : Forget not to continue, and fortify your Intelligence with the Seminaries and Jesuits of England, as also with the Catholick Ladies of that Kingdom, and especially with those of the nobler Rank, and who are most powerful at Court, for they may open a Passage for your Master when none else dare. At any Hand use the Prime of your Art and Invention, to keep the King of England poor, and be sure to rivet this Nail soundly to his Majesty, that there is no Vertue so Royal and Magnificent in a great King, as Liberality. I am sorry to hear that England's Navy-Royal, doth so prosper and flourish ; in which Regard and Consideration, the King your Master shall do well to build Store of new
Ships

Ships in Biscay, Ostend, and Dunkirk; for if Spain master England at Sea, England can never withstand Spain by Land; for now the English are effeminate, and you Spaniards Soldiers. I doubt not but by this Time, there is such Order taken in Spain, that the English Fleet at Alicant, and Cartagena, shall return home with Loss, Shame and Repentance, whereby you may teach them, that it is only proper for Spaniards to domineer at Sea, and that the Sea and Maritime Actions are now Spain's; no longer England's Element.

So whilst England lies gasping on her Bed of Peace and Security, let the King your Master provide for War: Continue to sow Division in the Church of England, and rather augment than diminish your Pensions to you know whom. If there be any Army to go out of England, either for Bohemia, the Palatinate, the Netherlands, or Venice, deal so effectually with King James, that either it be so small as it can do no great hurt to Catholics, or be a means to cause them to stay so long, that it be impossible to do any good for Protestants. I commend your Excellency's Policy, in being sharp, and bitter against those, who either speak, write, or preach against the King your Master, and his Pretences, for now you having the Honour and Felicity, to see yourself tied to King James's Ear, and his Majesty to your Girdle; the Disgrace and Punishment of these will terrify others.

others. Be sure to be intimately acquainted with all factious and discontented Catholicks, for they will prove fine Agents and Instruments to execute your Masters Commands. I am glad to see King Philip so slighting, and disrespect King James, as he hath not this many Years sent him an extraordinary Ambassador, especially now for treating and concluding this Match; for the more you and he debase the Honour, and undervalue the Reputation of England, the more you advance and prize that of Spain. But that which grieves me most, is, because God himself hath opposed and confirmed the Breach, and Deterioration of the Match; but I hope that for the Catholick King's Sake, our Holy Father the Pope, and our Blessed Mother, the Church, will so interpose their Prayers to his sacred and divine Majesty, that very shortly he will revoke and change his Resolution, and relish that which he now distasteth. Through your Zeal and Industry, I likewise doubt not, but (before a few Years be past and blown over) to see England made a Province to Spain; her Nobility most murdered, and the rest carried away Slaves to work in the Mines of Peru and Mexico; the Pope install'd; all Hereticks rooted out either with Fire or Halter. Let your Excellency proceed, as you have well and happily begun, and fear not but you shall enjoy your Wishes, the King, your Master, his Hopes, and myself and all the Roman Catholicks of England

England our Desires. In the mean Time
I kindly greet and salute your Excellency,
and by your next Dispatch for Spain, fail
not to signify that I kiss the Catholick King's
Hand.

Written and sent from Heaven.

Your Excellency's Friend,

MARY Queen.

F I N I S